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selected were *Amanitopsis vaginata* (Bull.) Roz., and *Russula emetica* Fr. — a very few. The only test applied in selecting the fungi had apparently been the pleasing appearance and the tenderness of the mushroom. Roberts' identification of *Amanita* as composing the greater part of those eaten was independently verified by one of the patients, Dr. Dinsmore's sister, who had prepared the fungi for eating.

From the evidence obtained it is quite clear that the poisoning was due to the deadly *Amanita*, and it will be noticed that the symptoms exhibited were in close agreement with those ascribed to *phallin* poisoning by chestnut,\*\* although Dr. Rice characterized the intestinal discharges as "serous" and not assuming the "rice-water" condition, and neither extreme salivation nor decided suppression of the urine was noticed.

In connection with the supposed action of *phallin* in decomposing the blood corpuscles and in bringing about the escape of the blood serum from the system by way of the alimentary canal it may be mentioned as a partial confirmation that the undertaker experienced considerable trouble in preparing the corpse for burial,—less than half the usual amount of blood could be extracted; thus indicating a depletion of blood supply before death occurred.

CARNEGIE MUSEUM, August 14, 1907.

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\*\* Chestnut, V. K. Circular No. 13, Div. Botany, U. S. Dept. Agriculture.

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## A NEW SPECIES OF PROTOMYCES.

J. J. DAVIS.

For the purpose of securing a name under which to distribute specimens in *Fungi Columbiani* I submit the following:

**Protomyces gravidus n. sp.**—Causing hypertrophic swellings on stems, branches, petioles and midribs. Spores, either sub-epidermal or in the vascular bundles but not usually in both, numerous, surface more or less irregularly uneven, generally globose but some times elliptical, ovate or polygonal, 30-55 x 27-40  $\mu$ , plurinucleate; epispore thin (1-3  $\mu$ ), brown; endospore in maturity thick (3-5  $\mu$ ), hyaline. On *Bidens cernua* L. and *Bidens connata* Muhl., Dousman; on the same hosts and sparingly on *Bidens frondosa* L., Racine; on *Bidens cernua* L., Berryville, all in Wisconsin. July to November.

What I have called the endospore should rather perhaps be considered a peripheral layer of cytoplasm in a resting condition the true endospore being a hyaline membrane 1  $\mu$  or less thick.

In the 35th Rep. of the New York State Botanist, p. 138, is reported the occurrence of *Protomyces marcosporus* Ung. on leaves and stems of *Ambrosia trifida* L., at Albany, with a brief description that corresponds with the fungus on *Bidens*. Prof. Peck informs me that it was abundant at one station during one season. Through the kindness of Dr. Farlow I have had an opportunity to examine sections of a gall on *Ambrosia artemisiaefolia* L. which was sent him from Nantucket, Mass. in August 1905, containing spores similar to those in the *Bidens* galls.

Sydow described in *Annales Mycologici*, 1:237, *Entyloma leucanthemi* which was distributed by Vestergrén (*Microm.* No. 808.) under the name *Protomycopsis leucanthemi* (Syd.) Magn. but I have been unable to learn of a publication of the characters of the genus. Again through the kindness of Dr. Farlow I have been able to examine sections containing this fungus. The spores are similar to those in *Bidens* but they appear to occur in the leaf blade without gall formation and no mention is made of such swellings by Sydow. I therefore hesitate to distribute my material under the name given by Magnus.

I have found the fungus here considered on no hosts other than *Bidens* — not even on *Coreopsis* growing with affected *Bidens* — and for my present purpose the question as to the relation between the *Ambrosia* and *Bidens* inhabiting forms may be left open.

I have made many attempts to observe the germination of the spores, at all seasons of the year, using material kept continuously out of doors but without result.

Racine, Wisconsin, August 6, 1907.

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## CULTURES OF UREDINEAE IN 1906.<sup>1</sup>

BY J. C. ARTHUR.

The present article forms the seventh of a series of reports<sup>2</sup> by the author upon the culture of plant rusts, covering the years from 1899 to the close of 1906. As in previous years the grass and sedge rusts have constituted a large part of the list of species under trial. This is partly due to the economic and scientific interest connected with them, but even more, possibly, to the greater ease with which wintered-over and viable spores may be secured for cultural study. Among the species whose life-

<sup>1</sup> Read before the Botanical Society of America at the New York meeting, December 31, 1906.

<sup>2</sup> See Bot. Gaz. 29:268-276, 35:10-23; Jour. Myc. 8:51-56, 10:8-21, 11:50-67 and 12:11-27.